

**INDIVIDUAL PROPERTY/DISTRICT
MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
INTERNAL NR-ELIGIBILITY REVIEW FORM**

Property/District Name: George L. Porter House Survey Number: G-IV-A-197

Project: US 219/Oakland Vicinity Improvement Project Agency: MSHA

Site visit by MHT Staff: ☐ No ☐ Yes Name _____ Date _____

Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility **not** recommended ☒ X

Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Justification for decision: (Use continuation sheet if necessary and attach map)

The George L. Porter House, built *circa* 1880, documents the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century development and settlement of the Oakland area as the result of local resort and hotel development. The Porter House stands adjacent to the site of the former Monte Vista Hotel, a prominent area resort hotel which was built around 1880 and demolished a century later. The Porter House was originally built as a summer home replete with a tennis court and a carriage house/stable for a Washington widow.


Research has not identified any associations with the lives of persons significant to the Oakland area's past or with events that have contributed significantly to broad patterns of the area's historical development. The architecture does not represent a particularly distinctive type, period, or method of construction, nor does it represent the work of a master, possess high artistic values, or represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction. This resource has not yet yielded and is not likely to yield significant information important in history or prehistory.

Document on the property/district is presented in: Historic Structures Inventory and Determination of Eligibility Report


(KCI/MSHA 1997)


Prepared by: Gabrielle M. Lanier/KCI Technologies, Inc.


Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services


Date

NR program concurrence: ☒ yes ☐ no ☐ not applicable


Reviewer, NR program


Date



George L. Porter House
G-IV-A-197
537 Monte Vista Road
Oakland Vicinity
Circa 1880
Private

This is a two-story, five-bay, pyramidal-roofed frame dwelling consisting of a roughly square main block with three projecting gable-roofed two-story bays, an interior brick chimney, a large one-story shed-roofed frame garage addition, and a smaller one-story shed-roofed frame rear addition. Built on a concrete block foundation, the house is clad in aluminum siding and topped with an asphalt-shingled pyramidal roof. Windows are mostly single and paired one-over-one, double-hung aluminum sash finished with wooden surrounds. The front entrance contains a wood paneled half-glass door with a one-light transom overhead. A wooden garage door pierces the same elevation. The house faces east and occupies a partially wooded sloping site with several other domestic outbuildings. The property is located on Monte Vista Road about one-and-one-half miles south of Oakland.

The George L. Porter House, built *circa* 1880, documents the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century development and settlement of the Oakland area as the result of local resort and hotel development. The Porter House was originally built as a summer home replete with a tennis court and a carriage house/stable for a Washington widow.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. G-IV-A-197

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other George L. Porter House

2. Location

street & number 537 Monte Vista Road not for publication

city, town Oakland X vicinity

county Garrett

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name George L. Porter

street & number 537 Monte Vista Road telephone

city, town Oakland state and zip code MD 21550

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Garrett County Courthouse tax map and parcel 85-1-60

city, town Oakland liber and folio 125/373 & 139/308

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>1</u> <u>8</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u>0</u> <u>0</u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<u>X</u> domestic	<u>0</u> <u>0</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>0</u> <u>0</u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<u>1</u> <u>8</u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/ culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

0

7. Description

Inventory No. G-IV-A- 197

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

This is a two-story, five-bay, pyramidal-roofed frame dwelling consisting of a roughly square main block with three projecting gable-roofed two-story bays, a large one-story shed-roofed frame addition housing a garage on the north elevation, and a smaller one-story shed-roofed frame addition on the west or rear elevation. The house faces east and is located on a partially wooded sloping site on Monte Vista Road about one-and-one-half miles south of Oakland

Built on a concrete block foundation, the house is now clad in yellow aluminum siding and topped with an asphalt-shingled pyramidal roof finished with beaded wooden eaves and a flat wooden frieze board. The roof-wall juncture is further embellished with decorative scroll-sawn exposed rafter feet. A single rectangular interior brick chimney pierces the roof near the center peak. Aluminum louvers near the gable peaks ventilate the attic.

Windows consist of a mixture of single and paired one-over-one, double-hung aluminum sash of varying sizes finished with wooden surrounds. Several two-light fixed sash windows light the cellar level. The front entrance contains a wood paneled half-glass door; a one-light transom is located over this door opening, which is finished with aluminum surrounds. A wooden overhead garage door on the same elevation leads into the garage.

The front porch consists of a wooden deck, a metal pipe balustrade, and four-by-four chamfered wooden posts supporting an asphalt-shingled shed roof. Wooden steps flanked by an iron pipe railing lead up to the level of the porch deck. The back porch consists of two open-sided shed-roofed cutaway porches under either end of the rear shed-roofed addition.

Several outbuildings range in a ragged line up the hill northwest of the house. A one-story gable-roofed concrete block combination garage/shed fitted with a concrete block chimney stands closest to the house. This building is sheathed in vertical wooden boards in the gables and is accessed by a metal garage door as well as a standard-sized paneled wooden door. The material of the roof was not visible when the house was surveyed as it was concealed beneath a layer of snow. A gable-roofed 1/2-story frame dog house covered with an asphalt-shingled roof stands nearby. A gable-roofed open-sided frame firewood shed with corrugated metal sheathing in its gables stands to the west. A gable-roofed one-story frame shed sheathed in plywood and topped with an asphalt-shingled roof stands behind the wood shed. Other outbuildings include a second gable-roofed open-sided storage shed standing on four-by-four wooden posts, a gable-roofed one-story prefabricated metal shed, a one-story shed-roofed frame shed clad in particle board, and a one-half-story frame shed sheathed in particle board and topped with an asphalt-shingled gable roof.

The house stands at the midpoint of a semicircular driveway that joins Monte Vista Road. It is presently occupied and remains in good condition.

8. Significance

Inventory No. G-IV-A-197

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates Circa 1880 **Builder/Architect** Unknown

Evaluation for:

☒ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☐ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, complete evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual).

The George L. Porter House, built *circa* 1880, documents the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century development and settlement of the Oakland area as the result of local resort and hotel development. The Porter House stands adjacent to the site of the former Monte Vista Hotel, a prominent area resort hotel which was built around 1880 and demolished a century later. The Porter House was originally built as a summer home replete with a tennis court and a carriage house/stable for a Washington widow.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. G-IV-A-197

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization:

Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance A.D. 1870-1930

Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture, Landscape Architecture, and Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category:

Buildings

Historic Environment:

Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s):

Dwelling and Buildings

Known Design Source:

None

9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. G-IV-A-197

(See Continuation Sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property 2.55 acres

Acreage surveyed 2.55 acres

Quadrangle name Oakland, MD - WVA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Parcel 60, Map 85, Grid 1

11. Form Prepared By

name/title	Gabrielle M. Lanier/Architectural Historian		
organization	KCI Technologies, Inc.	date	3-10-97
street & number	10 North Park Drive	telephone	410-316-7857
city or town	Hunt Valley	state and zip code	MD 21030-1888

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032
410-514-7646

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 9 Page 1

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Garrett County Historical Society. v. d. Vertical Files. On file at the Garrett County Historical Society, Oakland, MD.

Lacoste, Kenneth C., Robert D. Wall, and Robert C. Sonderman. *An Archeological Study of the Western Maryland Coal Region: The Historic Resources*. Maryland Geological Survey. Report on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD. 1989.

Roberts, Charles S. *West End, Cumberland to Grafton, 1848-1991*. Barnard, Roberts & Co., Inc., Baltimore, MD. 1991.

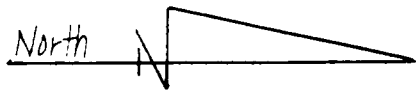
Schlosnagle, Stephen, and The Garrett County Bicentennial Committee. *Garrett County, A History of Maryland's Tableland*. McClain Printing Company, Parsons, West Virginia. Second Edition. 1989.

Ware, Donna M., and Mark R. Edwards. *Final Report of the Coal Region Historic Sites Survey, Volume I: Methodology and Management Plan*. Maryland Historical Trust. Report on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD. 1984.

Ware, Donna M., Orlando Ridout V and Geoffrey B. Henry. *Final Report of the Coal Region Historic Sites Survey, Volume II: Historical, Architectural, and Industrial Overviews*. Maryland Historical Trust. Report on file at the Maryland Historical Trust, Crownsville, MD. 1984.

Ware, Donna M., Orlando Ridout V, Geoffrey B. Henry and Mark R. Edwards. *Green Glades & Sooty Gob Piles*. Maryland Historical & Cultural Publications, Crownsville, MD. 1991.

Weeks, Thekla Fundenberg. *Oakland Centennial History, 1849-1949*. The Sincell Printing Company, Oakland, MD. 1949.



Shed

Shed

Shed

Open Storage
Shed

Shed

Firewood Shed

Shed / Workshop

Dwelling

Drive

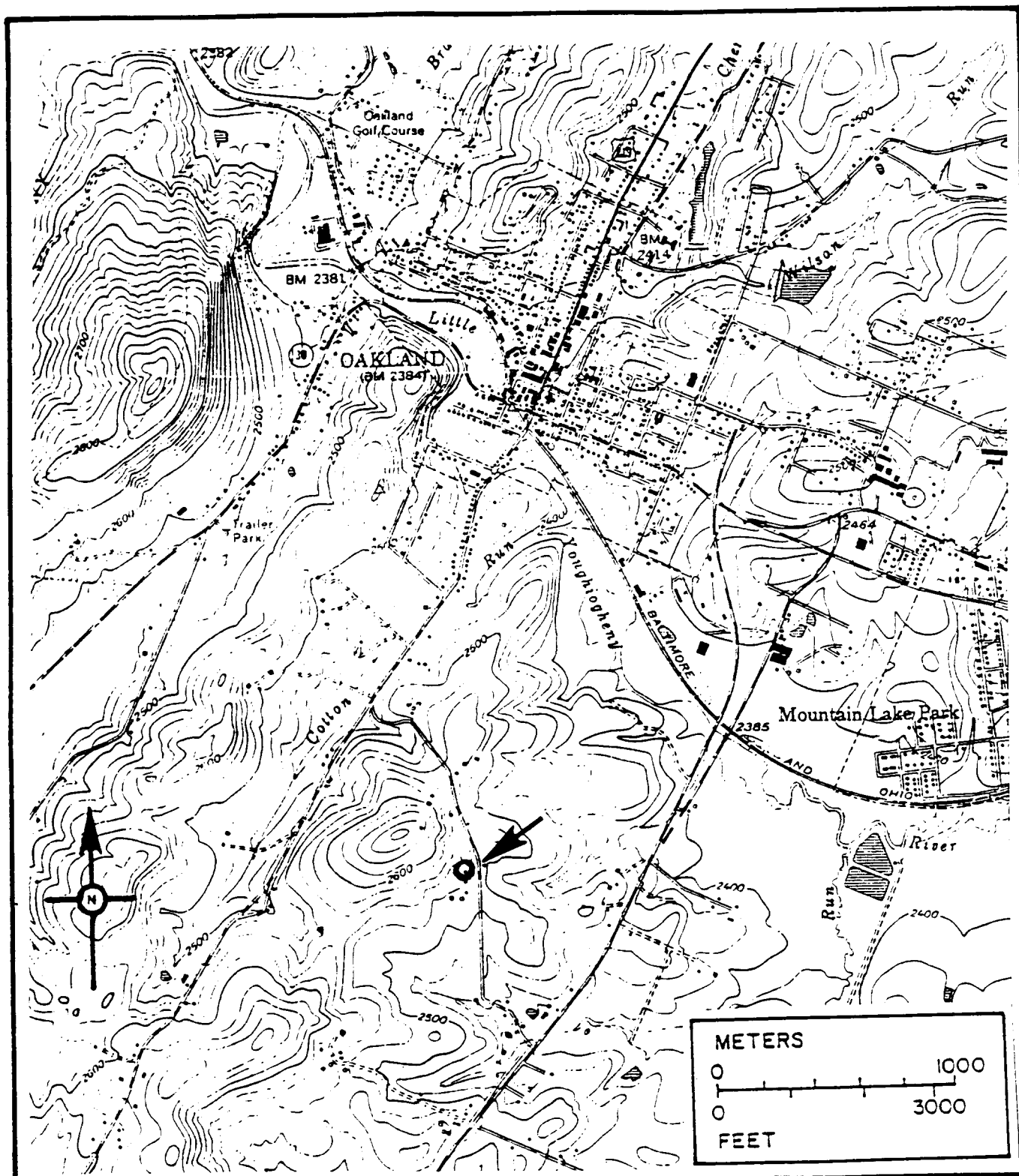
Monte Vista Road

NOT TO SCALE



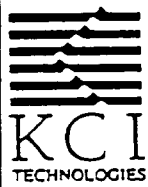
Resource Sketch Map

G-IV-A-197
George L. Porter House
Oakland Vicinity, Garrett County



Location Map

G-IV-A-197
 George L. Porter House
 Oakland Vicinity, Garrett County
 Oakland, MD-WVA Quadrangle Map (USGS 1974)





G-IV-A-197

GARRETT COUNTY, MD

1/12/97

STUART DIXON

MD SHPO

SW ELEVATION LOOKING NE

1 of 5



G-IV-A-197

GARRETT COUNTY, MD

1/12/97

STUART DIXON

MD SHPO

SW ELEVATION LOOKING NE

20+5



G-IV-A-197

GARRETT COUNTY, MD

1/12/97

STUART DIXON

MD SHPO

NW ELEVATION LOOKING SE

3 of 5



G-IV-A-197

GARRETT COUNTY, MD

1/12/97

STUART DIXON
MD SHPO

SE ELEVATION LOOKING NW

4 of 5



G-IV-A-197

GARRETT COUNTY, MD

1/12/97

STUART DIXON

MO SHPO

NE ELAVATION LOOKING SW

5085